

Southwest Area Mobilization Guide

Chapter 40 • Cooperation

40 Cooperation

Each zone coordination center is encouraged to add their zone interagency agreement, which includes the establishment of the zone, as a supplement to this Mobilization Plan.

The Southwest Fire Management Board Handbook is included as Appendix I to the SWA Mobilization Guide.

41 International Agreement With Mexico

As of January 2002, the National Leadership Team continues to have a team working with the Mexican government developing a national agreement. The DOI has forwarded to the National Coordination Center and the Southwest Coordination Center an example of the draft operating plan. The zones bordering Mexico will need operating plans to deal with wildland fires crossing the border into the United States.

- a. **Purpose.** The purpose of this agreement is to establish a joint program to prevent and fight forest fires along the international border between Sonora, Mexico and the Coronado National Forest in Arizona, in order to protect life, property and natural resources from forest fires and at the same time to minimize the costs incurred in fighting the fires.
- b. The fires referred to are those which have started in Mexico and tend to spread or continue toward the United States, or that start in the United States and spread into Mexico, threatening the forest resources of either country.

42 National Guard Support

The Joint Powers Agreement for Arizona and New Mexico provides general information on the use of National Guard. See Sec. 25.8.9 and Sec. 28.1.

43 Military Support

- a. **Fort Huachuca.** The Coronado National Forest has an agreement with Fort Huachuca Army Headquarters to provide support and assistance between the two units.
- b. **Fifth Army.** The Fifth Army Corps' area of responsibility for support in domestic emergencies, such as forest fires, includes Arizona and New Mexico.

44 Joint Powers Agreements

- a. Joint Powers Agreements exist between the State of Arizona and the Federal Agencies of the Departments of Agriculture and Interior with Fire Responsibilities. See the Southwest Fire Management Board Handbook.
- b. Joint Powers Agreements exist between the State of New Mexico and the Federal Agencies of the Departments of Agriculture and Interior with Fire Responsibilities. See the Southwest Fire Management Board Handbook.

Southwest Area Mobilization Guide

Chapter 40 • Cooperation

45 Interregional Agreements

- a. **Kaibab and Dixie National Forests.** These forests may work directly with each other for exchange of initial attack primary firefighting forces available from their forest. Each forest is responsible for informing their geographic area of commitments of resources either sent or received.
- b. **The Four-State Agreement.** Arizona, California, Nevada, and Utah BLM have an initial attack agreement for use of resources across state boundaries. The initial attack resource can be used for 24 hours. If the resource is needed beyond 24 hours, a resource order will be initiated through the proper dispatch channels.
- c. **Texas Agreement.** A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between Texas Forest Service and USDA Forest Service Regions 8 and 3. The MOU pertains to initial attack use of resources.

46 Memorandum of Agreement, USDA-USDI, Law Enforcement

This MOA provides for the USDA Forest Service and the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Fish and Wildlife Service to be able to cross-designate law enforcement powers from any of the above agencies to law enforcement personnel from any of the other agencies under certain specified conditions.

The exercise cross-designation under this agreement is limited to: (1) investigative operations; (2) security or law enforcement operations during wildland fires or other major events or incidents; and (3) emergency assistance calls. Upon **official request** from one agency to another agency for law enforcement assistance, all law enforcement personnel sent to that incident will be automatically empowered with the enforcement powers of the requesting agency.

Requests by the Bureau of Indian Affairs are subject to enactment of additional enforcement authority currently pending in Congress.

47 Initial Attack and Mutual Aid Agreements Within Each Southwest Area Zone

Memorandums of understanding exist between the various local, county, State, and Federal agencies within the Southwest Area, and several agreements exist between units within different zones. Copies of these agreements are maintained by the Southwest Coordination Center manager.

The following are listings of those various agreements, by state and zone.

- a. **Arizona**

Joint Powers Agreement between the State of Arizona and the Federal Agencies of the Departments of Agriculture and Interior with Fire Responsibilities.

Charter and Operating Plan for the Arizona Interagency Coordinating Group (AICG) which is responsible for the overall coordination for fire management activities in Arizona.

Southwest Area Mobilization Guide

Chapter 40 • Cooperation

1. Central West Zone (CWZ)

Memorandum of Understanding for the operation and management of the Central Arizona Zone.

Joint Powers Operating Plan for Central West Zone.

Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement between Apache Junction Fire District and Tonto NF establishing mutual aid zone and initial attack assistance.

Memorandum of Understanding between Tonto NF and Tonto NM establishing the mutual aid for fire suppression.

Memorandum of Understanding between BIA Fort Yuma and Colorado River Agencies and BLM Yuma District establishing the operating plan for the zone.

Memorandum of Understanding between Havasu City Fire Department and BLM Yuma District for fire protection and mutual aid.

2. Flagstaff Zone (FLZ)

Flagstaff Zone Charter

Joint Powers Operation Plan for Flagstaff Zone.

Memorandum of Understanding between BIA Hopi Agency and Coconino NF covering funding support of the Flagstaff Zone Dispatch Center.

Memorandum of Understanding between BIA Navajo Area and Coconino NF covering operational guidelines for managing the Navajo Area Southwest Fire Fighters (SWFF) program.

Memorandum of Understanding between Coconino NF and BIA Hopi Agency covering operational guidelines for managing the Hopi Agency Southwest Fire Fighters (SWFF) program.

Memo between the Kaibab and Coconino NFs to provide funding and operation of the helicopter for use within the Flagstaff and Grand Canyon Zones.

Inter-Forest Agreement between the Coconino NF, Kaibab NF and Prescott NF for the ordering of initial attack suppression resources.

3. Grand Canyon Zone (GCZ)

Joint Powers Operating Plan for Grand Canyon Zone. Memo between the Kaibab and Coconino NFs to provide funding and operation of the helicopter for use within the Flagstaff and Grand Canyon Zones.

Cooperative Fire Control Agreement between the City of Williams and Kaibab NF for radio frequency use.

Memorandum of Understanding between Dixie NF and Kaibab NF on all aspects of wildfire management and cooperative use of fire resources.

Southwest Area Mobilization Guide

Chapter 40 • Cooperation

4. Southeast Arizona Zone (SEZ)

Joint Powers Operating Plan for Southeast Arizona Zone.

Memorandum of Understanding among Coronado NF, Libby Army Air Traffic Control Tower, and Fort Huachuca Air Traffic and Airspace Officer covering air traffic control services within Restricted Area R-2303A

Agreement between Department of the Army Permit and Coronado NF for the mutual aid for fire protection and suppression and the nonexclusive use of portions of certain portions of Libby Army Airfield, Fort Huachuca for the airtanker base.

Agreement between Saguaro NM and Coronado NF for mutual aid for fire protection and suppression.

5. White Mountain Zone (WMZ)

Memorandum of Understanding for the operation and management of the White Mountain Zone.

Mutual Dependency agreement for initial attack or reinforcement action between the Apache-Sitgreaves and Gila National Forests.

6. Arizona Interagency Fire Center (AIFC)

Memorandum(s) of Understanding are in effect for the Bureau of Land Management (Phoenix and Kingman Field Offices), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Colorado River Area), and the Arizona State Land Department to support the operation of the Arizona Interagency Fire Center.

All incidents for above mentioned agencies are dispatched from the Arizona Interagency Fire Center located in Phoenix.

b. New Mexico

Joint Powers Agreement among the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department and the United States Federal Agencies for the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior with wildfire protection responsibilities.

1. Albuquerque Zone (ABZ)

Memorandum of Agreement for the formation of the Albuquerque Zone Management Board.

Joint Powers Operating Plan for the Albuquerque Zone.

Agreement between NPS El Malpais NM and Cibola NF to provide funding of Oso Ridge Lookout.

Memorandum of Understanding between Southern Pueblos, BLM Albuquerque District, and the Cibola National Forest establishing the operation and financing of the ABZ Dispatch Center.

Memorandum of Understanding between Kirtland Air Force Base and the Cibola National Forest covering radio frequency usage.

Southwest Area Mobilization Guide

Chapter 40 • Cooperation

Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement between Bernalillo County and the Cibola National Forest.

Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement between the City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department and the Cibola National Forest.

Support Agreement between 1606 Air Base Wing and the Cibola National Forest to cover support provided to the airtanker base located on Kirtland Air Force Base.

Memorandum of Agreement between Kirtland AFB and the Cibola NF for mutual aid for fire protection.

Memorandum of Understanding with Texas Forest Service for sharing of initial attack resources.

2. Gila-Las Cruces Zone (GLZ)

Joint Powers Operating Plan for Gila-Las Cruces Zone. Joint Powers Operating Plan for Gila-Las Cruces Zone Dispatch Center.

Mutual dependency agreement for initial attack or reinforcement action between the Apache-Sitgreaves and Gila National Forests.

3. Lincoln Zone (LNZ)

Lincoln Zone Coordination Center Management Board Charter.

Lincoln Zone Coordination Center Operating Plan.

Memorandum of Understanding with Texas Forest Service for sharing of initial attack resources.

4. Santa Fe Zone (SNZ)

Joint Powers Operating Plan for Santa Fe Zone.

5. Taos Zone (TAZ)

Initial Attack Operating Plan for the Taos Zone.